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APPLICATION NUMBER	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED APPLICANT	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
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EXAMINER

SHALWA B

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2721

DATE MAILED: 03/26/98

This is a communication from the examiner in charge of your application.
COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS

OFFICE ACTION SUMMARY

- ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 3/2/98
- ☐ This action is FINAL.
- ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 D.C. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

A shortened statutory period for response to this action is set to expire _____ month(s), or thirty days, whichever is longer, from the mailing date of this communication. Failure to respond within the period for response will cause the application to become abandoned. (35 U.S.C. § 133). Extensions of time may be obtained under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a).

Disposition of Claims

- ☒ Claim(s) 3-4, 7, 38, 40-50 is/are pending in the application.
- Of the above, claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- ☒ Claim(s) 3-4, 7 is/are allowed.
- ☒ Claim(s) 38, 40-50 is/are rejected.
- ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- ☐ Claims _____ are subject to restriction or election requirement.

Application Papers

- ☐ See the attached Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948.
- ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are objected to by the Examiner.
- ☐ The proposed drawing correction, filed on _____ is ☐ approved ☐ disapproved.
- ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).
- ☐ All ☐ Some* ☐ None of the CERTIFIED copies of the priority documents have been
- ☐ received.
- ☐ received in Application No. (Series Code/Serial Number) _____
- ☐ received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

*Certified copies not received: _____

- ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

Attachment(s)

- ☒ Notice of Reference Cited, PTO-892
- ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s), PTO-1449, Paper No(s). _____
- ☐ Interview Summary, PTO-413
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application, PTO-152

— SEE OFFICE ACTION ON THE FOLLOWING PAGES —

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1. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 38, 40-50 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

2. Examiner suggest In reproduction, reference video signal is taken, and it is reproduced to obtain WB control data, which is used to determine the gain, and when the other video signals are reproduced, WB control is performed by using this WB data, from specification, page 28, lines 3-9, which is further described on pages 28-30, should be included in claim 38 and 45.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

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4. Claims 38, 40-50 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sasaki et al. U.S. Patent 5,034,804. In view of Nagasaki et al. U.S. patent 5,153,730.

As to claim 38, Sasaki shows (fig. 1, 2, 6A, 6B, 9B, 9E and 11; col. 6, line 11 to col. 9, line 35; col. 9, line 35 to col. 10, line 40) an image processing system, comprising;

Memory means, a memory card 15 capable of storing the image signal with the condition information. The second memory being detachably attached to the apparatus (see figs. 6A, 6B; col. 7, line 60 to col. 8, line 68; specifically col. 8, lines 47-50; col. 4, lines 8-11);

Reproducing means for reproducing the image signal stored by the memory means (see col. 9, lines 35-38).

Producing means for producing ^{correction data} ~~reference information~~, and ^{correction} ~~Signal processing~~ means for performing a predetermined processing on the image signal reproduced by the reproducing means on the basis of the reference information. (see fig. 11; col. 9, line 35 to col. 10, line 40; specifically col. 9, lines 52-55, col. 10, lines 11-13). CPU 102 controls signal processing information based on ^{correction data} ~~information~~ which was readout, which is considered ~~reference information~~.

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However, Sasaki does not show producing means for producing ~~reference information~~ ^{correction data} on the basis of the image signal reproduced by the reproducing means. In the similar art, Nagasaki shows, it is old and well known to produce reference information (Y_C separation, filtering, and the like, col. 6, lines 44-46, which is considered ~~reference information~~ ^{correction data}) on the basis of the image signal reproduced by the reproducing means (see col. 6, lines 31 to col. 7 line 15). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention, to include the teachings of Nagasaki, in the apparatus of Sasaki, to shorten the time required to process the image signals output by the CCD (see Nagasaki, col. 2, lines 10-15). *and also it improves image, as signal can be processed with high accuracy into flawless still-image signal (Nagasaki 7-12)*

As to claim 40, Sasaki further shows, holding means, frame memory 95, for holding the reference information, signal processing means performing a processing on image signals other than the image signal used to produce the reference information, on the basis of the reference information held by the holding means buffer memory 95 (see col. 9, lines 52-55, col. 10, lines 11-13).

As to claim 41, Sasaki further shows designating means (CPU 102) for designating a reference signal from among image signals

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stored in the memory (see col. 9, lines 40-46, file number is reference signal).

As to claim 42, Sasaki further shows, reference signal (file number), designated by the designating means (keyboard 104, col. 9, lines 40-46).

As to claim 43, Sasaki further shows, holding means, frame memory 95, for holding the reference information, signal processing means performing a processing on image signals other than the reference signal on the basis of the reference information held by the holding means buffer memory 95 (see col. 9, lines 52-55, col. 10, lines 11-13).

As to claim 44, Sasaki further shows, displaying means for displaying an image associated with an image signal outputted from the signal processing means (see col. 10, lines 21-40; fig. 11, item 107).

As to claims 45-50, they recite on what is discussed above regarding claims 38, 40-44.

5. Claims 7, 3 and 4 are allowable over the prior art of record.

6. The following is an Examiner's statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter:

Control information is copied from second memory means to the first memory means when the second memory means is removed

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from the apparatus. When third memory means is attached to the apparatus, control information copied from second memory means to first memory means is copied from first memory means to third memory means, in combination with other limitations of claim is not shown or suggested by the prior art.

7. Effective November 16, 1997, the examiner handling this application will be assigned to a new Art Unit as a result of the consolidation into Technology Center 2700. See the forth coming Official Gazette notice dated November 11, 1997. For any written or facsimile communication submitted ON OR AFTER November 16, 1997, this examiner, who was assigned to Art Unit 2616, will be assigned to Art Unit 2721. Please include the new Art Unit in the caption or heading of any communication submitted after November 16, 1997 date. Your cooperation in this matter will assist in the timely processing of the submission and is appreciated by the Office.

8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Bipin Shalwala whose telephone number is (703) 305-4938.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3900.


BIPIN SHALWALA
PATENT EXAMINER
GROUP 2600